

THE NINE ENGLISH WORTHIES:

Or,

Famous and Worthy Princes of
England, being all of one name;

Beginning with King HENRIE the first, and
Concluding with Prince HENRY, eldest
Sonne to our Soueraigne Lord
the King.



AT LONDON

Imprinted by H. L. for John Harrison the you-
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rowe, at the signe of the blue Anchor.

1606.

THE
NINE ENGLISH
NOTES

50

Famous and Worthy Pictures of
England, being all of one Volume;
Containing King Henry the Eighth,
Catherine of Aragon, Prince Harry,
Sonnes of our Sovereigns, Long
the King.



London

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TO THE HIGH AND MIGHTY PRINCE

HENRY, *Eldest Sonne to our Soueraigne, the Kings most Excellent Maiestie.*



Iight High, Right Excellent, and gracious sweete Prince, (in all humilitie) I beseech your Highnesse to pardon me, in that (being one of the meanest among the King your Fathers seruants) I haue presumed to Dedicate this simple small Treatise to your Excellencie: the Subiect whereof is notwithstanding such and so great, as may seeme vnmeet to bee tearemed a Subiect. For, it treateth onely of Kings and Princes, all excellent Worthies: a matter (I confesse) much vnbefitting my slender capacity, and lesse learning, to deale with. In which regard, I cannot but acknowledge, the true Proverbe most fitte to bee applied

noqy

A 2

against

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

against me, *Blinde Bayard is the boldest horse in the Cart*. Notwithstanding, that, which hath spurred me forward to commit the fault, may (I hope) in some measure, qualify and excuse it; to weet, my fervent loue and zealous heart: which cānot endure, your Grace should passe by me, without some little testimony of my great ioy, zeale, and bounden duety: howsoeuer, in the maner of expressing it, my discretion may perhaps be worthily taxed, and my insufficiencie layed open to the world. But to proceede on: The Worthies, here recorded, are nine in number; all *Henries*, almighty Potentates: eight of which haue already been Souereigne Kings of this renowned Nation; seuen of them excelling in Martiall valour and conquest, one of them (namely, King *Henry the sixt*) in vertue and pietie, (the conquest of sinne and himselfe) and none of them much inferiour to some of the ancient nine Worthies. Now, your Highnesse being of the same name with them, and Heire apparent to the same Dominions, which those eight Worthies (your glorious Ancestors) sometime held, and the blessed sonne of a mighty Monarch; the eye of the World is

upon

The Epistle Dedicatory.

vpon you, and lookes for a transparent passage of their vertues into you, and a reflexion from you; the ioy and comfort of this famous Realme of *Great Britaine* (aswell in Church as Commonwealth) is set and settled in and vpon you, next to our King and present sauing Gouvernour. And their hopefull expectation hath already installed you the ninth Worthy; as being likely (in time) I say not, to equall the eight, but cuen to surmount and exceed them. For, as the ages, since theirs, haue been illustrated with more learning, Religion, and diuine wisdom: so, besides your gifts of Nature (who, in perfections, hath not been niggardly towards you) your Hightesse taking also your princely and happie education in a time of peace, and that vnder the wings and eyes of the most learned King your father, vertuous Queene mother, and such a Councel of settled and deep wisdom, as not the like in *Europe*; your Hightesse, I say, hath (herein) meanes, examples, and leasure to heare, learne, behold, and obserue the singular goodnessse of God, in that, which hereafter shall be your owne greatnessse and happinesse. And here I may not forget your

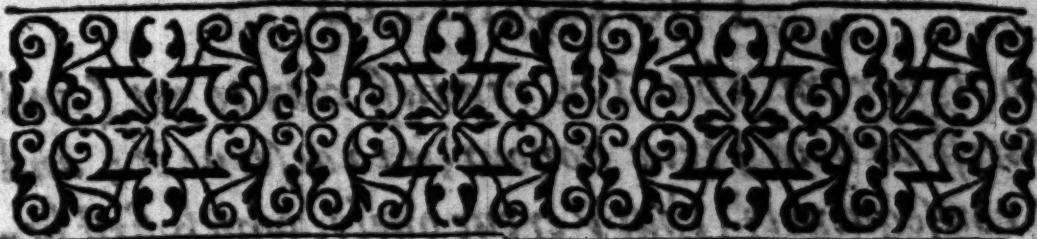
The Epistle Dedicatore.

chiefest honour, nobilitie, and worthinesse; that you are descended of the eldest and highest house, of the blood royall of Heauen, the child and sonne of God, and consequently coheire with Christ (our great Lord) to the immortall Crowne. Now, the same God, your heauenly Father, who hitherto (in rich mercie) hath shewred downe abundantly his graces vpon you, youchsafe to continue and increase them in you; guiding al your princely affections and actions, to the glorie of his name, the benefit of the Church, the good of this whole Monarchie, the vnspeakeable ioy of your royall Parents; and blesse both them and you, as with much health, long life, and glory here, so with eternall happiness hereafter. *July the 4.*

Your GRACES

most humbly devoted,

ROBERT FLETCHER.



TO THE RIGHT HO-

nor able, my very good Lords, the Earles of
Oxenford, and Essex, with my Lord Vicount Cran-
borne, and the other yong Lords, Knights and
Gentlemen attending the Princes Highnesse;
health, honour, and happiness.



Obles and Gentlemen: Please
yee to peruse the Chronicles of
this Realme, you may therein
reade of many your famous and
worthy Progenitors, who(some
of them by Valour; the rest, by Wisedome and
their other vertues) haue growen great in So-
vereignes fauour, been preferred to high Place in
Common-wealthe, lived and died in much glorie,
leaving an ouer-plus of honour and dignitie (by
many descents) to you their children. The
consideration hereof may, and (I doubt not) wil
incite and egge you on (who are already well en-
zred the way) to tread the same steps of honour, by
imitating those your worthy Ancestors in their
virtuous actions. For your tender yeeres are

The Epistle to

not ignorant, that The readiest way to get (and
surest to hold) true honour, is to deserue it; and
(consequently) that Vertue onely, which first be-
gan Nobilitie, must still maintaine it: whereas,
contrarwaise, by degenerate and base conditions,
many forfeit their Nability, ere they come at it.
For, who knowes not, that Nobilitie, without
Vertue, is but apocryphate Gentry? and that,
therefore, as it began in vertuous Ancestors; so
it endeth in their wicked progenie. We see, The
strongest wine becomes the sharpest vineger: and,
The most Noble, by nature, are made most wile by
negligence. Of which Ranke and sort, are chief-
ly such as bold learning in scorne, and the attai-
ning of knowledge not worth the while. In re-
prooфе of whom, truely and eloquently was it
(long since) written by M. Ascham; The fault
is in your selues, ye Noble-mens sonnes (and
therefore ye deserue the greater blame) that
commonly the meaner mens children come
to be the wisest Counsailors, & greatest doo-
ers in the weighty affaires of this Realme: and
why? For, God will haue it so by his prouide-
nace; because yee will haue it no otherwise
by your negligence. And againe, It grieueth
me to say (but it helpeth not to hide) what e-
uery

the yong Lords, &c.

very man sees ; Tis seldom seene, that the
sonne of an excellent man prooues excellent.
Forasmuch, that in excellent men, Nature must
frame the chiefeſt parts : but learning adderba
further ornament, groundeth a deeper judgement,
and formeth perfection, and excellencie, in ſhort
ter time. The best learned are best aduised. And,
No man is deceiued, but in thofe things whereof
he is ignorant. In a word : Whatſoever may bee
ſayd in diſpraiſe of Ignorance, is the praife of
Learning and Knowledge. Wherefore, I truſt,
your Honours, and the reſt, wil thinke it as great
ſhame (which alſo are M. Aschams words) to
be valiant and Courtly without Learning, as
to be ſtudious and bookiſh without Valour.
My fervent prayers, to almighty God, ſhall be ſo
to direct your generous hearts to the ſtudie of
good literature, with the loue of vertue and true
valour, that you alwayes (not onely in time of
this your tender youth) may be found meete Gen-
tlemen to attend ſo worthy a Prince. Remem-
ber, I beſeech you, the Poēſies borne in ſome of
your honourable Ensignes ; Vero nihil verius.
Virtutis comes Inuidia. Setò, ſed ſcriò : And
neuer forget the moſt worthy ſaying of that
thrice honourable late Senatour; Corvnum, via

The Epistle to the &c.

vna. These Mottoes, well imprinted in youth,
will bring honour to old age. Which the God
of heaven and earth make you all partakers of
in the present, and possessors in the future; and
the same, after many yeeres, to be permanent in
the heavens, for ever.

Your Honours in all humility,

ever to be commanded,

Robert Fletcher



To his friend M. Ro. Fletcher, vpon
his Subiect of the nine
Worthies.

Who dreads the fume of euery froathy spirie,
And begs th' applause of ech fantastick braine,
Frighting with causeleſſe feares industrious merie,
Too much dejects exalted Poesies straine.
Let blind distrust insinuate approbation :
A princely Subiect scornes base depreciation.

Vino vendibili, non opus est suspensa bedera.

φιλαρετή.

R. Fenne.



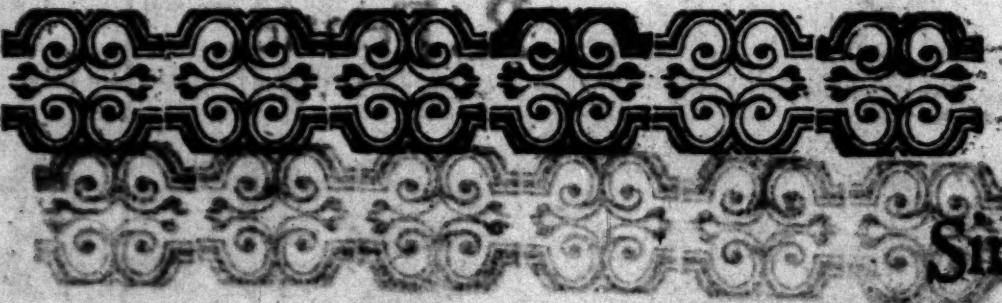
B 2

Thomas



Thomas, Lord Windsor, his humble
congratulation of the ninth Worthy.

Who-euer shall a vertuous mind imbrace,
Present renowne, and glory shall him grace:
Long after life: as in ~~these~~ Worthies nine first
It doth appeare. For they long since are dead;
Their Vertues line, in Chronicles they shine,
Their Corps consum'd to dust: yea cuen the Lead,
That clos'd their earthly bodies in the graue,
Can not be seene; no signe thereof we haue.
Their names, nor fames, their deeds will never die;
Their Acts (their Monuments) their worthy praise:
These registered, doe liue perpetually:
There is no end or period of their dayes.
Liue so, Great Britaines Prince, as they haue donne;
Ninth Worthy, hopeful H E N R Y, great Kings Sonne.





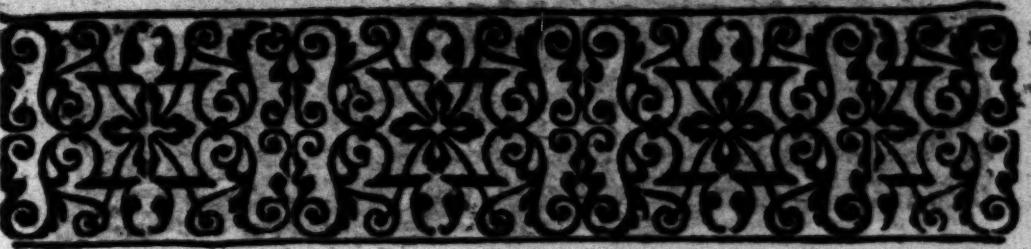
Sir William Whorewood, Knight, in
honour of the ninth Worthy.

When Silvius Post-humus did seeke this soile,
And therin thought to raigne, to rule, to rest;
Trauailes he found, and stormes, with bitter broile:
But little space in quiet he possest.
Since when, what alterations, and what change,
By Conquest, and by Tyrants bloody hand,
To write at large, it would be true; but strange
To count the troubles of now happy land.
Yet, by eight H E N R I E S, settled in it selfe;
Lastly, vnted to one Kingdome more,
What needeth it to care for Indian pelfe?
Gold, Plate, and Pearle it now possesseth store;
And, more then all, a King, a Queene, a Plant,
A Royall Issue, Parents chiefeſt ioy,
A Captaine that in time will thofe ſupplant
That dare attempt Great Britains leaſt annoy.
Ninth Worthy, worthieſt next our Soueraigne be.
God grant, long Raigne of both may Britaine ſee.



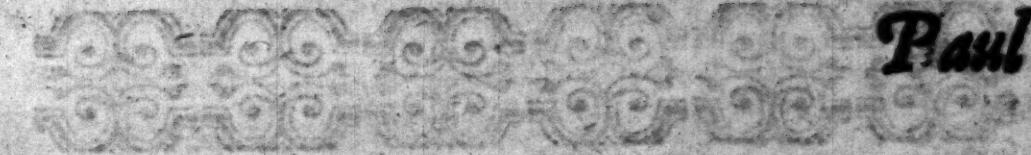
AND
*John Widewp (the elder) Gent. vpon
the Worthies; but with most humble
duties to the Worthiest of
them all.*

NINE Worthies were described long agone,
And as forgotten are intumbed dead:
No Monument remaines of any one,
Though they were Shrined better then in Lead:
But *Iesua, David, Macchabenus* be
In Bible booked for first Worthies three.
Next in that Ranke (and so the number nine)
Were *Julius, Alexander Macedon,*
Hector of Troy, and Godfrey-de-Boloigne,
Arthur of Britaine, Charles King Pepins sonne.
In other bookeſ their Stories written are;
With whom eight *Henries* welnigh may compare.
The ninth, in hope more worthy then the eight:
Upon whose shoulders wiſeſt heads haue hirld
Offuture honour a farre greater weight,
Applauded of *Europa, and the World.*
Besides all theſe, one Worthy more I ſing;
The worthieſt of Worthies, *I am Esour King.*



*Io: Guilliams Gent. vpon the
ancient nine Worthies.*

THe drift and scope of princely Subject this
Is bent to very perfect honest end.
The Writer thought, he could not write amisse,
In writing that which formerly was pend.
Nine former Worthies Stories theirs extend
Some of them vp to heauen, with endless praise:
All of them liv'd most worthy in their dayes:
But all were not of one, nor onceselfe sort:
Three excellents, of God ordaind before:
Three other valiant, famous by report.
The first three Kings, one Prophet, valour storie:
All three commended heavenly vertues lore.
Three other were profane, but valiant men:
Three Christian Kings, that vsed pike for pen.

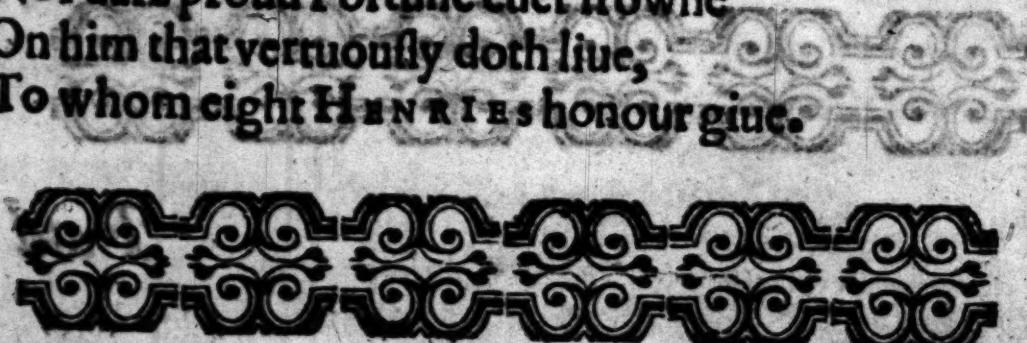


Paul:



Paul Peart, Gent. vpon the later nine Worthies.

To make those Worthies live againe,
Which long agoe were lapt in Lead,
Is worthy praise for taken paine,
To him that raiseth from the dead
Such Princes as in time possesse
The Regal Scepter, Crowne and Globe,
And in their Tumbs haue taken rest,
That once did weare a kingly Robe,
Now to appeare on princely Stage,
And to resigne a princely power,
Vnto a Prince whose tender age
Is now a blesse, and grant each hower
Him to attend the royll heest,
And follow after true renowne.
He then from heauen shall be blest,
Nor dare proud Fortune ever frowne
On him that verruously doth liue,
To whom eight HENRIES honour giue.



John

John Widevp (the yonger) Gent.
of the nine Worthies.

THe primier Worthies, which we Worthies cal,
Were worthy, three for godly exhortation
(*Iosua, David, Macchabeus*): and all
The other sixe for valours imitation.
Nine worthies more behold; eight Kings, a Prince,
Yong, Tender, Sweete, Great Britaines hopefull Ioy:
Who will in time his fathers Foes conuince,
And worthy prooue, as *Hector* was of *Troy*.
Then eighteen Worthies, with the Prince of *Britaine*,
This booke doth note: Lo here their stories written.

**Thomas Webber (seruant to the
Kings Maiestic) vpon the sixt Wor-
thy, King HENRY the sixt.**

The King was left an infant, most vnfite
To Raigne, by age: but not to rule, till when
He should attaine in time to riper wit,
Thereby to iudge the differences of men:
Yet, Crowned in *Paris* King of mighty *France*,
In tender yeeres almost an infant still,
His vncles and his Nobles did aduance

C

His

His Regal power, as did his father will
They should. But yet this King, a tender childe,
Was rul'd and ouer-rul'd by Tutors head.
For *de-la-Poole* his nonage then beguil'd
And brought King *Rayners* daughter to his bed :
Yet during nonage, or his kingly youth,
The valiant Dukes of *Bedford*, *Glocester* thoe
Salisbury, *Shrewsbury* Earles, these bent their truth
To uphold him King of *France* in spite of foe.
In whose time, *Talbot* was a terror great
To all the French. For, as his dubbing drums
With armed souldiers did their walles downe beat :
So women fear'd their children, *TALBOT* comes.
Thus whil'st these Nobles liv'd, this Worthy thriues :
They being dead, then all was lost againe.
Salisbury, *Talbot* both did lose their liues,
Bedford likewise. Now both these valiants slaine,
This King at home drencht in domeesticke strife,
Fierce factions set his Nobles at debate :
Some followed him, and some his head-strong wife,
Till *Richard Duke of Yorke* disturb'd their State,
Who claimd the Crowne; yet never could attaine
The same : but *Edward* fourth his valiant sonne
Rose into Armes, though first his father slaine
At *Wakefield*, where the Queene a battell wonne.
With these and thousands moe, this worthy King
Tost and turmoyled, spent his Mortall time
Till Tyrant *Gloster* in the Tower did bring
To death this worthy Prince deuoide of crime :
In all his life who euer shunned euill,
Conquering Sinne, the World, the Flesh, the Devill.

Thomas

*Thomas Binwin, Gent. vpon his
thrice worthy yong Master, the ninth
Worthy.*

If all the Worthies should on earth appeare,
The ancient Worthies nine in Ranke and place
(Three from *India*, three from other where,
And Christians three) our *Britaines* hopefull Grace,
Our sweet yong Prince, thereby could take smal staine
Though they from graues were raised vp againe.
Now for those Kings, which H E N R Y had to name,
May they compare with H E N R Y *Britaines* Prince?
These Worthies (though of farre renoumed fame)
Haue sought and fought long time agoe, and since,
In vaine for to conioyne their neighbour land
To this their owne; continuing warre and strife,
Vntill it pleas'd *Iehouas* mighty hand
From hence to giue King I A M B S the fourth a wife,
H E N R Y seventh's ^{daughter} sister, Lady Margaret faire;
Of whom descends our Liege and gracious King,
And braue Prince H E N R Y, his thrice worthy heire.
Magnifie God and Nature, for this thing.
Which sole succession hath brought such accord,
That he of both may once rest Soueraigne Lord.
This then may make our Worthy principall
Of later nine; His future power and strength:
Yea more, herein exceeding Worthies all;
They being dead are now entumbd at length:
This Worthy liues. God graunt him long to liue:
Graunt long (good Lord) the King, his father, reigne:
(And to his princely sonne thy graces giue,
Great God) that both may *Britains* wealth maintaine.

The



The Authors excuse of an Escape, in the Title following.

Next Title some small error may containe,
Which doth auerre HENRIES, nine English Kings:
Yet, to my Booke, why should it seeme a staine?
Sith, to Great Britaine, it great comfort brings.

The hopefull Prince and Heire apparant, He
With the eight Kings well may consorted be.
Twice scap't (by Pen, and Presse) I fear'd to raze
His future Stile, at whomeuen Kings may gaze.



The

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The nine English Wor-
thies , or famous and worthie Kings
of England ; being all of one name , be-
ginning with King HENRY the first , and con-
cluding with HENRY now Prince of
Great Britaine.

King Henry the First.



King Henry the first was the sonne
of William the Brother to Wil-
liam Rufus , that was immediate-
ly before King of England : which
worthie King for his wisdom, lear-
ning, iudgement , and honourable
policy was surnamed Henry
Beuclarke , or the faire Writer and god Scholler . He
be-

2 The nine English Worthies.

began his raigne the fist day of August, Anno Domini 1100. He was crowned at Westminister, raigned 35. yeares, and 4. moneths, lacking 4. dayes: he was strong of body, comely of nature, blacke haired, large and faire eyes, a Princely and a pleasant countenance, excelling in thre vertues most commendable and comfortable to the subiects of his time, viz., Wisedome, Eloquence, and Valour.

Remember won rān Hālēw grībūd

Wītīng' tāvīd



His Epitaph.

HENRY the first, a King, a Princes sonne,
Excellent wise, well learn'd, of valiant minde,
His gouernement recorded this hath wonne,
For euerlasting praise to him assignd,
First worthy. Then take place, O mighty Prince,
That with these vertues didst thy foes conuince.



King

King Henry, the Second of
that name.



He was a Frenchman borne, the second sonne of Ieffrey Plantaginet, Earle of Aniou, begotten of Mawde the Empresse, daughter to King Henry the first; he began his raigne ouer this noble Realme of England the 25, day of October, in the ysare after the incarnation of our Sauiour Christ 1154. and departed this life in An. 1189. in the 61. yeare of his age, after he had reigned 34. yeares, 9. moneths, and two dayes. And heere may be thought(sayth the Historiographer) that the raigne of the Frenchmen, and the names tooke an end, after they had borne sway 122. yeares, after the commynge in of King William the Conqueroz. For, those Kings which reigned after this Henry the second, may rightly be called Englishmen.

4 The nine English Worthies.

Englishmen, because they were borne in England and b-
sed the English tongue, custome, and manners, according
to the nature and quality of the Country. His body was
buried at Fountverand, which is an Abby stuate not far
from the Eagle, within the Dutchy of Almucen.

His Description.

He was a man of god stature and very welformed,
of comely countenance, partly red hayed, grey
eyes, of wit quicke, and perfect good memory, so
that he could remember long al things of any mo-
ment, which he had eyther heard or seens; of body some-
what fleshy, and strong, and could abide very patiently
the displeasures both of colde and heate, he had a large
head, a broad brest, and very spare of dyet, the rather be-
cause he would not be too fat, therfore when he was at
leasure and free from warres, his exercise was hunting,
and progress strauels.

He was a Prince of stout stomacke and invincible
courage, more resolute and constant in time of aduersitie,
then in prosperitie: liberal to all men, but chiesly unto
soldiers. Pittifull to the poore (an excellent vertue and
nature in a Prince). For prooife whereof in a time of
dearth which happened in Aniou and Mayne, hee did
at his owne cost and Princeely pity: feede ten thousand
poore people every day with god victuals, from the first
of April till the last of July, An. Dom. 1176. And aboue
his Princeely and most magnificent house-keeping he fo-
red garners, cellars, and store-houses, religious persons
and their holoses. Tributes and Taxes he tooke verie
seldome, and those not great. Hee was very expert in
seates of warre, and no lesse fortunate therin. He would
praise his Captaines and men of warre after their deaths
to encourage those that liued; hee was well learned as
those

The nine English Worthies. 5

those Princes aforesayde, and exceeding wise. His care to haue Justice duly administered in his Realme was exceeding great, in so much that finding that the Sheriffs in his time were rather inclined to seek their owne gains, then to deale uprightly with his subiects, hee appointed Superintendents ouer them to ouer see their doings, as if they had been Controllers, so as an awfull regard made them circumspect, and wary in their doings. He ordained also punishment for Hunters in Forrestes and groundes of warren, either by fines or by imprisonment. He ordained that murtherers should be hanged, other offences he punished with losse of limmes, and otherwise as the qualitie of the offence required. Most carefull hee was to haue justice administered without corruption. He tyed men of sundry sorts to execute justice with justice, but in fine hee referred it to the Bishops and Clergy men, hoping in that profession to finde the most integrallie: and yet he little regarded the Bishop of Rome or feared his censures, as is manifest by the history of Thomas Becket in this Kings time, and sundry others.



I find two Latine Epitaphes translated into rude English by the Writer of this whole Historie,
the effect wherof somewhat reformed is, as followeth.

King Henry was of late my famous name,
A Conqueror of many a Princely land:
Small Epitaph shall need to aduance my fame,
What done by me was done by powerfull hand,

D. 3

And:

6 The nine English Worthies.

And in my dayes I passed not a pin,
For Pope of Rome, he nought of me could win:
Warre, Lawe, and Iustice as a princes word,
I held them alwaies of the great st regard:
Where peace would not preuaile I drew my sword:
Vnto my selfe and souldiers, full reward
I gaue, and with small bloudshed as I could,
I tam'd my foes and quaile princes bolde.
A second Worthy, I do claime the place,
Amongst the nine, and more. For in my time,
All Christian Princes sought to me for grace,
For without me they could not liue sans cryme.
My peers and princes I maintain'd with right,
And in the field dubd many a worthy Knight.



King

Sixt

34

King Henry the third.



Henry, the third of that name was the eldest son of King John, the youngest son of King Henry the second: being a childe of the age of nine yeares he began his raigne over the realme of England the 19. day of October, in the yeare of our Lord 1216. he was crowned at Gloucester by the hand of two Bishops: viz. Winchester and Bath, by the honorable meanes of William Marshall then Earle of Pembroke. He was a Prince of great wisdome, power, and policy, by whose eloquent oration this young king was crowned as is here mentioned: he departed this life at Westminster the 16. day of November, in the yeare of our Lord 1272. after he had lived 55. years and raigned King of this Realme 56. yeares & 28. dayes: hee

Nota,

8 The nine English Worthies.

hee was buried at *Westminster*, lefte a Princely and a very honourable issue, as Edward Prince of *Vales*, who succeeded him by the name of King Edward the first. He had one Sonne more and th'ree daughters, he was of body well cast (to vse the former writers owne words) being strong and of a good stature, well sauoured, and of a bewtifull face, only blemished a little in the lid of one of his eyes, of nature very curteous, and of stomache both noble and stoute, as may appeare by his many battailes and victories, a devout Prince toward his God, and bountifull in works of reliese, and comforts towards the poore and needie: therefore a Worthy, and worthy of th' ensu-ing Epitaph.



His Epitaph.

*H*enry the third began his raigne in peace,
And likewise brought a mighty peace to passe:
Beginning his forc't factious French surcease,
And landed *Lewis* in *France* where first he was:
Else noble *England* had been thrust in thralls,
By *Lodowicke* and his lusty gallants then:
But English Britaines banished the Galles;
So shewing that they were true English men.
King *Henry* then of Worthies was the chiefe,
That for his subiects wrought so great relief.



of the adoration of the Magi. (Composed and set by J. D. 1609)

King Henry the fourth.



When king Richard the second had resigned the crown, as in his history it appeareth he did, Henry Plantagenet borne at Bollingbroke in the county of Lincoln, Duke of Lancaster, Earle

of Hertford, Leicester and Lincolne, was with the general consent both of the Lords and commons of the Realm published, proclaimed, and declared King of England, France, and Lord of Ireland: he was crowned at Westminister in An. 1399. with great and kingly maiestie, all Officers of estate and of princely service doing their homages, and attending upon the same. He departed this life the 20. day of March 1413. and in the ycare of his age

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46. when he had reigned 13. yeares fift moneths and od dayes.

The manner of his death.

THIS king was indued with magnanimity, and did purpose a voyage against the infidels, and to have with his force and might redemeſt Palestina, or the Holy land then ſo called, from the Infidels. Having an army and all honourable pruduiſſions for ſuch a journey ready, and beeing the time of his high court of Parliament, hee fell ſuddenly and extremely ſick, as he was then (though vainly) praying before Saint Edwards Shrine : from whence being remoued into a chamber of the Abbots of Westminſter called Ierusalem, he departed as is aboue ſayd. But during the time of his ſickneſſe, ſay ſome Writers, he cauſed his crowne to be ſet upon a pillow at his beddes head : and ſuddenly the pangs of death having power ouer him he ſeemed dead, and the gentlemen Attendants covered his face with a veile. That valiant Prince his ſonne being aduertised thereof, entred into the chamber, tooke away the Crowne and departed. The King his father reuived quickly, and did perceiue the lacke of his crowne, and having knowledge that the Prince his ſonne had taken it away, he cauſed him to appear before his presence, demanding of him how he durst preſume to ſuch an act. Who made vnto the king an humble and princely anſWERE: but the king anſWERED with a powerfull Maieſtie, ſaying with a great ſigh; Wel ſayze Sonne, what right I haue to it God knoweth, yet I commit all to God, and wiſh vnto you all good graces from him worthy of ſo high and mighty a calling; ſo ſelling vp the ghost in the Abbot of Westminſters chamber called Ierusalem as is aforſayd. And himſelfe being tolde that the ſame chamber was ſo called hee tooke comfort thereat.

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therat and much rejoiced therin; for determining a most honourable tourney towardes Jerusalem, hee did enuyng dayes in Jerusalem.

His Description.

His King was of a mean stature, well proportioned and formally compact, quick, prompt and ready of wit, of a stoute courage, and in his latter dayes he shewed himself so gentle that he obtained more loue amongst the Nobles and people of this Roialme, then he had purchased enuy concerning his right to the Crowne mentioned to the Prince his sonne: he was buried at Canterbury, the King his sonne being present at his funerallies.

His Epitaph.

HENRY the fourth (though Richard second should haue dyed our king) he dyed our King indeed.
Which act by dint of sword was so control'd
That many English hearts it made to bleed:
Shrewsburie field doth still the matter scan;
Where Percyes pearc't the heart of many a man,
Themselues were pearc't and perisht in the field:
This mighty King could not be conquered so,
Lord Henry hotspurre could not make him yield,
Northumberland Earle, Worcester, thousands more,

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The Prince of *VVales*, a leader young but bould,
Fought for his Father like a Lyon olde.
Like an olde Lyon rampant open iawes,
Deuouring beasts, so fought this peerelesse Prince;
Yet was he wounded in the face God knowes,
Prayd to take Tent: he sayd I will conuince
Those foes that dare beholde my Fathers face,
Within his land and worke him this disgrace.

The braue Earle *Douglas* strake the King on helme,
And feld him flat vpon the trampled plaine,
Slew *Walter Blunt* and like to ouerwhelme
The King, the prince, and all their valiant traine,
Till Kingly valour forced *Douglas* flight
And with his hand slew thirtie sixe outright.
Douglas was taken prisoner in the place,
So was the Earle of *Worc'ster* worthy paine,
And so he was beheaded wanting grace:
But *Douglas* was receav'd to grace againe,
And freely ransom'd by that worthy King
Gainst whom he fought and many foes did bring.

More of this King, if more y'e list to heare,
Then read his story and more shall you finde,
That from his prime vnto his perfect yeare
Greathonour and great fortunes were assign'd
Vnto this King; but more vnto his sonne

Counter-fait kings. Who had no peere since Christian World began.

Counterfaite Kings in Kingly armors clad
Were beaten downe by the Earle *Douglas* hand,
To see them fall it leem'd his heart to glad
To rise againe, he sayd o powerfull hand.
That valiant harts withstanding fortunes checke
Three Kings to rise each one in others necke.

King

King Henry the fift.



He Prince of Wales son and heire
to king Henry the fourth was born
at Monmouth in Wales vpon the ri-
uet of Wy: after his father was de-
parted this life, he tooke on him the
regiment of the Realme of England
the 20. day of March: and beeing
proclaimed King by the name of

Henry the fift, the yeare of our Lord 1413, such great
hope & good expectation was had of this kings fortunate
successe to follow, that within sowe dayes after his fa-
thers departure, divers Noble men and honourable per-
sonages did to him homage, and swore to him due obe-
dience: which had not been done to any his predeces-

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soys kings of this Realme , till they had been possessed of the Crowne.

Hee was crowned the ninth day of Aprill beeing Palme-sunday : and beeing a very fierce and cruell day for variety of sowle weather , men diuined and deemed diversely what might issue of such a beginning.

But whatsoever mens fantasies might or did conjecture , yet this was the King , that according to the proverbe did shewe and declare indeede how trewe and new honor ought to make exchange of old and evill manners . For no sooner was he invested king and had receiued the Crowne , but hee did put upon him the shape of a newe man , turning insolency and wildenesse , into grauity and sobernesse : and whereas hee had passed his youth with wanton and dissolute wild yong gentles , men who had led him into all excede of ryot , in so much as one of his youthfull traine beeing committed by the Lord chiese Justice for misdemeanour , the youthfull Prince did strike the Lord chiese Justice vpon the face , who also presently committed the Prince to straite and close prison . The King his Father maintained the Lord chiese Justice ; banished the Prince from his presence and Courte , did remoue him from the Counsell Table , and woulde not readmit him into favour , vntill with submission extraordynary hee obtained the same . But as before beeing placed in the seate Royall , hee called these Gallants before him , tould them of his and their owne faultes , banished them from his presence , not vntrewardsed nor yet unprestred , inhibiting them vpon a great payne , not once to approach , lodge , or sojourn within ten myles of his Courte or Mansions . And then hee made choise of graue , wise , and politicke Counsellors : by whose high wisdomes , and prudent aduertisements

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ments he might at all times rule to his honour, and govern to his profit. And considering with himself what charge hee had in hand, and what appertained to his duty and office, he trusted not too much to his owne wisedome, Judgement, and directions: but as is aforesayde he called to his Counsell such honourable personages as might assit him in the government of so weighty a charge to instruct him with such good reasons and fruitefull persuasions, as that thereby he might shew himselfe to his subiects, a Micer^r of vertue, and an example of iust and upright dealing. And having first laid the foundations of his government sure, he did prouidently forecast and consider in his Princely minde, that every god gift and every perfect gift commeth vayne from the Father of lights. He determined withall to begin with something most acceptable to his divine Maiestie. And therfore commanded the Clergy sincerely & truly to preach the Word of God and live accordingly; that they might be as they ought to be, and their profession required, lanternes of light to the temporaltie. The Lay men he commanded to serue God and obey their Prince, prohibiting them abone all things the breach of matrimony, the fowle abuse of swearing, chiesely of willfull perjury: and to that end he ordained god & holesome lawes, and presently summoned a Parliament, in the which in honor of h^e most noble order of h^e garter, he ordained the day of S. George next after to be kept with a double feast: in this his first parliament, he propounded matters of questio touching the hierarchy of Churchgovernment, that time; but was answered with the iust and lawfull title which he had to the kingdome of France. Which when he had conceiued to pursue, the Dolphin of France a baltant yong prince, sent unto his Maiestie a barrel of tennis bals, as if he would haue sayd, these are fit instruments for such a young gentleman to play withall as you the King of England is, & not at these.

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yeare.

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pears to forecast the conquest or rather a reconquest of the noble and renowned kingdom of France, which the King my Father, and I the Dolphin doe and will possesse mauger the power of England.

But this redoubted king, magnanimous, wise, grave, and settled to all kingly resolutions, sendeth the Dolphin this mild and sober answere. Go tell that gallant young gentleman your master, that I doe thanke him for his present, and will with all speed prepare to send him in requitall such store of London halbs, as shall batter the strongest holdes, make scoope the most beltisfull towres, and make flat the chimmies, and rounes of houses, about his and his Fathers castles, that are contained in the realme & confines of France. For I will make the highest crowne to stoop, and the proudest mister to kneele down; yea and that before one yeare do passe me, by the power of God. Which thing to make good he slacked no time, omitted no occasion, lost no opportunitie, but made preparation both by sea and land to execute the full of his intended purposes.

Being furnished for the expedition of the fleet, ready for his Maiestie and Armies to saile forth for the intre conquest of all France, behold a conspiracy was practized against this immaculate king, by the Earle of Cambridge and others at Southampton, vpon whom he commanded (though sore against his wil, as some Authors do affirme) execution to be done vpon his going to shipporde, making it knowne by a most louing and princely Declaration how unwilling hee was to haue taken lief a way, or to haue left the noble Earle of Cambridge deade and sequestred from his then victorious voyage.

Yet had he scene or foreseen at that time to haue shewed the like vpon the Earle of March: Richard Duke of Yorke had not claimed afterward as he did, nor confounded the state and gouernement of this kings onely sonne,

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sonne, nor wrought his owne end at Wakefield as he did: but the Almighty is and ever wil be all in all.

This his first and honourable voyage into France, his warlike proceedings there, his conquest of many particulars, his battaille or most famous victorie at Agincourt, where hee slew and subiected to himselfe, no prisoners and captives, al the flower and chivalry of France, his returne againe into England, his second voyage backe againe, his second conquest of all France, the Homages of Philip Duke of Burgundy with other estates of France, his mariage with Katherin the French Kings daughter, his triumphant stay there in Paris, his Princely or rather Emperiall howsekeeping there, his returne againe into England, his last returne into France, his settling of the estate there, his Coronation at Paris, the most Propheticall censure of Prince Henry his Sonne borne at Windsor, and afterward King of England crowned also in Paris King of France, his untimely or most lamentable death, his returne into England in mournefull funeralls, are extant in his histories, and the best worthy of reading, in regard of his owne Princely Person, valour, vertues, and most excellent actes, of all the other Chronicles of the English Nation. And yet to obserue the order and decorum of my poore endeavour in abstracting the beginnings and endings of eight most worthy Kings, and all Henryes, I will conclude this most worthy King, with the manner of his death, and description, vsing the Historiographers owne words, phrase, and manner; as not to be amended by any.

The King fell sicke, and so was brought to Boyes de Vincenç, and thither came to visit his Maiestie (with heauy hearts) the Dukes of Bedford & Gloucester: the Earles of Salisburie, and Warwick; whom the King right louingly welcomed, and shewed himselfe to be no lesse glad of their presence: but when he did see them pensive for his
F sicknesse
aut

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sicknes, and danger wherin he lay, with many graue
pichy and courteous words recomforted them the best hee
could, and therewith he exhorted them to be trusty and
faithfull vnto his sonne, to see that he might be vertuously
educated, and brought vp : concerning the rule and go-
vernance of his Realmes, during the minority and young
yeares of his sayde sonne, he willed them to ioyne toge-
ther in all friendly loue, and concord, keepeing continuall
peace and amity with the Duke of Burgundy and never to
make treaty with Charles, who calleth himself Dolphyn
of Vienne, by the which any part of the crown of France, or
of the Dutchy of Normandy and Guyene might be lessened
and diminished. And further that the Duke of Orléance,
and the other Princes should remaine prisoners till his
sonne came to lawfull age, least by returning they might
kindle moze fire in one day, then could well be quenched
againe in thre. He further aduertized them, that if they
thought it necessary, then it should be god to haue his bro-
ther the Duke of Gloucester to be Protector of England du-
ring the minority of his sonne : And his brother the
Duke of Bedford with the help of the Duke of Burgundy
to be Regent of France.

Commanding him with fire and sword to persecute
the Dolphyn, vntil hee had either brought him to reason
and obeisance, or else to drue and expell him out of the
Realme of France. And herewith he protested vnto them
that neither ambitions desire to inlarge his Dominions
neither to purchase vaine renowne and worldly fame, nor
any such consideration had moued him to take that war
in hand, but onely that in prosecuting his just Title, hee
might in the ende attaine to perfect peace, and come to
enjoy those peaces of his inheritances which to him of right
belonged : and that before the beginning of the same
wars he was fully perswaded by men both wise and helpe-
of life, he might and ought vpon such intent, both begin
the

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the same warres and follow them til he had brought them to an end, justly and rightly; and that without all danger of the Almights displeasure, or perill of sorwe.

The Noble men present promised to obserue his precepts and performe his desires: but their hearts were so penitue, and replenished with sorrow, that one could not for weeping behoulde an other. Then hee receaued the Sacrament and fell to devout prayer: and in saying of certaine Psalmes meet for the present time, hee ended the dayes of this life, the last day of August, Anno 1422.

His Description.

This Henry was a king whose life was immaculate, and his living without spot, this king was a prince whom all men loued, and was of none enuyed, this prince was a Captaine against whom fortune never frowned, nor mischance once spurned: this Captaine was a Shepheard, whom his flocke both loued and obeyed. This Shepheard was such a Justiciary, that he left no offence vnpunished, nor goddesert unrecompenced & fully rewarded. This Justiciary was so feared, that all rebellion was banished, and Sedition suppressed. His vertues were no more notable then his other qualities were worthy of prapse. In strength, and nimblenesse of body, from his youth se we or none were to him comparable. In wrestling, leaping, and running, no man (almost) durst with him presume. In casting of great iron bars, & heauie stones, he excelled commonly al men: cold weather never made him slothful, nor hot caused him to shrike, & whē he most labored his head was uncoyred:

he was no more weary of his armor, then of a light cloak. Hunger and thirst to him were never noysome, he was never afraide of a wounde, nor would shrink for the paine in dressing, he neither turned his nose from filthoures, nor from smoake and dust would close his eyes, no man could be found more temperate in eating and drinking, whose dyet was not too delicate, bat rather more meete for men of warre, then for dainty and delicate persons: every honest person was permitted to come to him even sitting at meales, and either secretly or openly to declare their minds, and intent: high and waughty causes as wel between men of warre, as other he would gladly hear, and either determine them himselfe, or commit them to other to give sentence. He slept very little, and that was moued either by bodily labour, or quietnesse of minde: but beeing in sleepe no small noise could awake him; insomuch as when his souldiers did sing, or minstrels play in the campes that it sounded withall, then hee slept most soundly. His courage was invincible and his heart so immutable that fear was banished from him. If an Alarum chanced to be raised by his enemies he was the first in armes, and the first that would set forward: in the time of warres he woud not only get knowledge what his enemies did, but what they sayd, and intended to do; so that all things to him, were knowne aforhand. And of his deuises, fewe persons before the execution of his purposed intent should be made partie: he had knowledge in the ordering and guiding of an army, and such a rare gifte to encourage his men to fight, that the Frenchmen sayde it was impossible for him to be vanquished in battaille: he had such wit, such prudence, and such policy, that he never enterprised any thing before he had fully debated it, and foreseen al the maine chances that might happen: and when the end was once concluded, he with all diligence and courage set his purpose forward. What policy hee had

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had in finding sodaine remedies, from present and dangerous mischieves, and what practise he vsed in saving himselfe and his people in sodain distresses, except by his acts they did plainly appeare, it would seeme incredible to be tolde ; and no lesse admirable how hee did abstaine from lasciuious living, and avaritious desires in such time and estate of riches and prouoking youth. In the time of losse he was no moze sad then in the times of victory, which constancy fewe Princes haueuer vsed. To speake of his bountie and liberallitie, no man could be moze free, gentle and liberall in bestowing rewardes vpon all persons according to their deserts : sauing that hee did not regarde money to keepe, but to give away, and to spend. What may be sayd? he was the Myrre of al Christendome, and the glory of his Country, the flower of Kings passed, and the glasse of all succéeding Maiestie. No Prince had lesse of his subiects, no king conquered more : whose fame by his death lively florished, as his acts in his life were seene and remembred. The losse of such a Prince could not bee sufficiently lamented of his subiects : blaming fortune for taking away so precious a iewel, so noble an ornament so sure a defence : for no doubt so much hope as was taken away from the Englishmen (the assured conquest of all France) by his sodaine death, so much trust was increased in the French nations stomackes to recover their late losses againe ; as not many yeares after they did indeed : Peeter Basset Esquier, and one of his chamber, affirmed that he dyed of a Pleurisy, there were others that did affirme otherwise, but the most likely was a Pleurisy indeed; the nature of that disease being then unknownen to Physicians, or to the world in those daies especially.

This King raigne nine yeares, nine moneths and three and twenty dayes : and liued not full thirty eight yeares: he was of stature higher then the common sort, of body leane, singularly proportioned and strongly made,

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of face bewtisfull, something long necked, blacke haired, stoute of stomacke, eloquent of tongue, in Martiall af- faires a perfect maister, and of chivalry the very peragon: His body in balmed and lapped in lead was layd in a chariot royall, richly apparelled in cloth of golde: upon his corps was layde a representation of his person, adorned with robes, diademe, scepter, and ball, like a king: the which chariot was drawen with sixe horses richly trap- ped with severall armes; the first with the armes of S. George, the second with the armes of Normandy, the third with the armes of king Arthur: the fourth with the armes of S. Edward, the fist with the armes of France, the sixt with the armes of England and France. On this Chariot gave attendance James King of Scotland principall Mourner, his Uncle Thomas duke of Exeter, Richard Earle of Warwicke, Edmond Earle of March, Humfrey Earle of Stafford, Edmond Earle of Mortaine. The Lord Fitz Hugh, Hugh L. Beaufort, Walt. L. Hungerford Sir Lewis Robart, Lord Bourchier, Sir John Cornwall, Lord Fanhope, and the Lord Cromwell were the mourners. The Lord Louell, the Lord Audley, the Lord Zouch, bare the banners of Saints: the Baron of Dublin bare the stan- dard, The Earle of Longvile bare the banner. The Hatchments were borne onely by Captaines to the number of twelve, and round about the Chariot rode five hundred men at Armes all in black armour, and their horses barbd with black, carrying the butt end of their spears vpwards. The conuoy of this dolorous funerall was committed to Sir William Philips Treasurer of his househould, & to Sir William Porter his chiefe caruer and other mour- ners: on each side the chariot were 300. men bearing long torches, and Lords bearing banners, baneroles and pe- nons. With this funerall pompe he was conuayed from Bois De Vincens to Paris; and so to Roan, to Abuill, to Calis, to Douer, and so through London to Westminster, where

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Where he was buried with such solemnities as to such a Prince appertained; especially such lamenting of the Lords, and such mourning of the Commons, as never before those daies were seene in the Realme of England.



There is as I doe thinke an Epitaph fixed upon his
Tumbe, at Westminster: but I held it my dutie to
continue my course in writing a simple one
of my owne, in honour of
him, &c.

His Epitaphe.

O Had I Homers pen, and Virgills wit,
With Tullies Eloquence to prayse this Prince,
And would the Muses come and by me sit;
Yet pen and paper would my Muse conuince.
For who can write of this most famous King,
And shall not erre in many a worthy thing?
His life immaculate, what doth that meane?
But that he conquered sinne, the world, the flesh,
Vnspotted sure: O heart and body cleane!
Almost two hundred yeares agoe, yet fresh.
The memorie of thee O King remaines.
Thy Tumbe like Crystall shines deuoyd of staines.
Praise be thy prayse, which Holinshed hathpend:
And praysed be thy name O King for euer.
Thy owne pure prayse no mortall man can mend,
Thy name cannot forgotten be, no neuer.

Englandi

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England and France ring forth thy famouis praise.
Though thou raigne with the Ancient of all dayes,
Yet as a mirror, or a looking glasse
Thou mai'st remaine o' King amongst vs still.
Succeeding princes will not let thee passe
To Heauen without administring thy Will.
Such testaments grant all thy heires to proue :
Then Englands glory never shall remoue.
Rest then o' Rex, and rise vp with renowne,
Westmonastery doth thy tombe possesse,
Succeeding Soueraignedoth enjoy thy Crowne
And Kingdome all, one more; for whome we blesse
Thy name great God, who long prolong his dayes
To Englands comfort and ay-lasting praise.



King
And I am bounde to saye O King of Kings
Thy owne bane bisayle upon us to make us
Till this curse come to ringe to the
badges

King Henry the sixt.



After y^e death had bereft the World
of that noble Prince King Hen-
ry the fist, his only sonne Prince
Henry b^eing of the age of nine
moneths or thereabout with the
sonde of Trumpets was openly
proclaimed King of England and of
France, the thirteenth day of August

Anno. 1422. by the name of King Henry the sixt. The cu-
stody of this young Prince was committed to the Duke
of Exeter, and to Henry Beauford Bishop of Winchester.
In the eight yeare of his raigne & the same of his age, he
was with all solemnity crowned king at Westminster: not
long after which time he tooke the sea at Douer, landed at
Calis, from thence to Roan, and so to Paris, whither at-

tended on him his Uncle the Cardinall of *Vvinchester*, the Cardinall and Archbisshop of *Yorke*, the Dukes of *Bedford*, *Yorke* and *Norfolke*, the Earles of *Warwicke*, *Salisbury*, *Oxford*, *Huntington*, *Ormond*, *Mortaine*, and *Suffolk*: of *Gaskoines*, there were the Earles of *Longvoile* and *March*, besides many Noble men of *England*, *Gwyn*, and *Normandy*: and the chiefe of the French Nation, were the Dukes of *Burgundy*, Lewis of *Luxenburgh* Cardinall and Chancelour of *France* for King *Henry*, the Bishops of *Bauiors* and *Nayom*, both Pères of *France*, the Bishop of *Paris* and divers other Bishops: the Earle of *Vandemont*, with a great number of other Noble-men, superfluous to be named. And hee had a Guard about his person of three hundred choyse Archers, some on horsebacke, and parte on fute. With what tryumphes, pageants, riche and sumptuous shewes hee was receaued into *Paris*, woulde bee too tedious to repeate. On the seuenth day of December, he was crowned King of *France* in our Lady Church (so called) in *Paris*, by the Cardinal of *Winchester*; the bishop of *Paris* not being contented that the Cardinall should execute such an high office in his Church and Jurisdiction. After all ceremonies finished, the king returned to the palace, having one crokone on his head, and another boorne before him, one scepter in his hand and another boorne before him: A triumphant feast and great reioycing, but mingled with distaste by means of the proud Cardinall of *Winchester*; who, preferring his owne wil before the weale publike, controlled that mighty Prince and valiant Captaing, the Duke of *Bedford* Protector of *France*: which malice moued, and heart-burning broched by the Cardinall, was remembred and revenged by the Nobility. But my only purpose being to select forth the name of *Henry*, and but to note their beginnings & endings, by way of abstract I will leaue this worthy yong prince yet a while, and tell

the

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the unsimely death of John Duke of Bedford, a tale worthy of note and memory, and this is it: *viz.*

This yeare the fourteenth day of September 1436 dyed John Duke of Bedford and Regent of France, a man most politike in peace, and no lesse hardy in warre, and yet no more valiant then mercifull when he had the victory: whose body was with al funeral pomp and solemnie obsequies buried in the cathedrall Church of Roan in the North side of the quier vnder a sumptuous & costly monument &c. Which Tumbe when King Lewis the xi. knew to be his, and was incited by certaine indiscreet Frenchmen to deface the same, he answered; What honour shall it be to vs, or to you, to break this monument, and to pull forth of the ground the dead body of him, whom in his life time, neither my father nor your progenitors with all their puissance and friendes were not once able to make flee one foot backward; but by his strenght wisedome and policy, he kept them all out of the principall Dominions of the realme of France, and also out of this Noble and famous Dutchy of Normandy: wherefore I say first, as God hath his soule, so shall his body now ly in rest, who when hee was aliue would haue disquieted the proudest of vs all. And as for the Tumbe, I doe assure you it is not so decent nor conuenient, as his honour and actes deserued, no althoough it were more riche and more bewtiful then it is.

But to returne according to the occasion, and by the way to touch this worthy Prince. His misfortune in his minority, was the cause of his Nobles dissencion: and that the cause of an unmete and unfortunate mariage; so that the Prince in his yong yeares spent all the honour power and pleasures of this mighty and worthy King, whose life was immaculate like his Fathers, whose patience overcame all his perplerities. Once deposed from his regal state, and dignity, and once

againe restored (in which interim was his propheticall speach to those Princes and Nobles about him, touching the young Earle of Richmond a child of tenne yeares old, Beholde (sayth he) stedfastly beholding the young Earle: This is hee, whome we and all our Aduersaries must giue place unto, when all is done) He was againe deposed, committed to the Tower of London, his onely son slaine, his Queene tooke sanctuary, his Nobles best subiects, and all his partakers slaine in sundry battailes: himselfe lastly marthered in prison; and yet his patience, integrity, godly life and good workes were no lesse commendable, then the acts of his father were famous, and honoorable. He reigned 38. yeares, 6. moneths and odde dayes; and other 6. moneths after his readeption of the crowne. He liued 52. yeares.

To censure him, þ God punished him for his grandfathers & fathers faultes, or that miracles were wrought by him, I neither will believe, nor write, as the writer of his historie doth, nor of King Henry the seauenth's purpose to haue him canonized for a Saint: but yet the loue of that most mighty King, that in the zeale of this Kings immaculate life would haue had him remembred for such holines, doth commend my purpose (which is) to commend him for the first worthy (and in ranke also) aboue all other his princely deedes. The kings colledge in Cambridge, and Eaton Colledge neere Windsor, are both very excellent monuments of his princely liberality: and my selfe haue obserued forty yeares together that God blessed both those houses, the one for education, and the other for bringing forth very excellent schollers.

His Description.

HE was of a seemely stature, of body slender; to which proportion all his parts were answerable. His face was very bewitfull: wherin was euer resident a sweet reseblance of bountie, wherwith his Royall heart was naturally indelwed, and euer therunto inclined. He abhorred all vices both of the body and of the soule. His patience was such, that of injuries done to him (which were innumerable) he did never seeke vengeance; thinking and saying, that for such aduersities as besell him, his sinnes should be forgotten and forgiuen: what losses soever did happen unto him, he never esteemed nor made account thereof: but if any thing were done which seemed to offend the Almighty, that hee lamented with sorrowfull repentance.

His Epitaph.

HENRY the sixt, a Prince, a Saint, a King, Faire Englands soueraigne eight and thirty yeare: Which time with more, his wofull end did bring, As in his story doth too plaine appeare:

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O had his Vncles liv'd and well agreed,
His death had not so vilely been decreed.
Had *De la Poole* been dead ere he was borne
King *Raynars* Daughter had not been thy wife.
If innocency thou hadst held in skorne
And reacht thy hand to warre, debate and strife,
And Parent like hadst proued *Mars* his sonne,
Glocester had not thy fatall thred vnspon.
Had *Richard (Warwicke)* wonne at *Barnet* field,
Braue *Mountacute*, or many Nobles moe,
That fled, or dy'd, or were inforc't to yield
(But power diuine had not ordained so)
He had not gone backe prisoner to the Tower
And theredetain'd vntill his latest hower.
Tewkesbury field had like or worse successse;
Duke *Somerset*, the Earle of *Devon*, eke
The *Marquesse Dorset* taken in the presse (seekē)
The poore young Prince was found, whom *Crofts* did
And brought before the King by armed Band;
Whom *Richard Gloucester* murthered out of hand.
Did patient *Job* indure more paine then this
Most Mighty Prince, Who hearing all this ill
Yet neuer murmur'd or once thought amisse,
More then a man, remaining patient still,
A King indeed a conqueror of the mind.
In all the stories we no such doe finde
(Diuine, profane, or morall, as I yet
Did euer read) such magnanimitie
To rest in man wherè humain hart was set,
Or who had feeling of extremity.
Rest now o King in heauens most happie shrine,
Preseru'd from foes b̄ all the powers diuine.
Let *VVindsor* be his monument of state,
Because he was both borne and buried there,

Knight

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Nota.

Knight of the Garter, mightie Potentate.
Though to his Fathers sense it did appeare
That Henry borne at Windsor should not be
Like Henry borne at Monmouth, which was he:
Yet Henry borne at Windsor worthy fame
Was and still is and shall be to the end:
His Colledges continue will his name
Whil'st Worlds indure: it is in marble pend.
Then worthy King, Sixt Worthy liue, and be,
For many Worthies were not like to thee.



King Henry the seauenth.



That most valorous, vertuous, and politicke Prince, King Henry the seauenth, needeth not any preamble for his birth and education: onely he was the true & undoubted heire of the house of Lancaster, and came to the Crowne by the conquest of his enemy Richard Plantaginet late Duke of Gloucester; but later a most horrible murtherer, registered Homicide, Tyrant, and Ulurper of the crowns of England: of whom I will make no further mention, but that this mighty Prince conquered him, and his people in soughтен field. At Bosworth in the county of Lecester 22. day of August 1485. the confilte and conquest was determined.

So preuailed King Henry the seauenth, the day and yeare aboue sayd, to the great glory of God, and the continued comfort (ever since) of all trew and faithfull English hearts. Spyn this King being by conquest absolute, by power able, by birth heir Apparant; yet to settle and make stedfast his raigne and succession, he maried Elizabeth, the daughter of king Edward the fourth, next heire of the house of Yorke: and so reuited both those howses (most honorabile in themselves) into one iacute monarchie, into one vnyt, into one body, into one (I say) and that a most happie one, into one bed; and blessed be that bedde, and the seed for ever, that sprang and still springeth of that generation. This union, or knitting of these two famous howses both together, was the end of long continued ciuill warres, the death of nobilitie, destruction of the cominity, the griefe of so many Princes, the lamentation of Citties, the outcry of the people. The State, before this union, was so rent and torn, that it was thought a thing impossible euer to haue beene reconciled againe: therefore this gracious beginning doth prognosticate a happie continuance and never to haue ending.

Pet the Dusches of Burgundy, a Princesse of state and stomacke, being Aunt to Elizabeth the Queene, did so much maligne this great and excellent good, that she set vp many malumentes and appyltaynes of purpose to dis temper the peace of this union: as rearing vp Perkin Warbecke, a base dutch vassall, to usurpe the name of Richard Duke of Yorke, the second sonne of king Edward the fourth; who with his tender yong brother king Edward the fift, had by their unnaturall Uncle been both murdered in the Tower. Many vaine and surmised ima-
ges she advanced to dis temper the state, vntill time and succession made an end of her malice: whch also by a linging sicknesse tooke this worthy an excellent king forth of this world. But, before his death, hee maried the

Lady Margaret (his eldest Daughter) to King James the fourth King of Scotland: which marriage I thought good to insert, as it is recorded in the course of his history; viz.

James the fourth King of Scotland, a mighty and a valiant Prince, having had sundry feudes, and garioyles with the English Nation, and that in the interim of truce, and abstinence of warre, especially about Norham castle; the Bishop of Durham Richard Foxe owner of that castle in the right of the Bishopricke wrote divers letters of submission to the sayd K. and the K. againe to the Bishop, & one letter in conclusion of many things, that the Bishop of Durham should come into Scotland to him about weighty affaires.

The Bishop certifying the King his Soueraigne of the premisses, The King commanded the Bishop by his letters to satisfie the Scottish Kings desires, which he tooke to be both reasonable and honorabile: and of which mesage the Bishop was verie glad.

So going into Scotland the King himself most gratiouly & curteously receaved this Bishop at the Abby of Melrose, and after some expositulation with the Bishop touching some slaughter done vpon his Subjects at Norham Castle, and the Bishops submisse and gentle answers therunto, the King gave the same most like a King the hearing. And afterward called the Bishop into a secret place garden or gallery, where no witnesses were admitted but only the King and the Bishop, and then he declared vnto him what iust causes had moued him in times past to seeke amitie with the King of England which now he desired to haue confirmed, and to hold inviolable for ever, if the sayd King would vouchsafe to contayne in matrimony with him the faire and bountifull Princesse L. Margaret the K. eldest daughter. In the behalfe whereof we were purposed to send our Embassadors to the K. your master.

But

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But we thought good first to proue your loue, godliking
and forwardnes towards vs and our godliking to your
king, his daughter, his subiects and dominions.

The Bishop answered but few words: only he sayde
that when he was returned to the King his master, hee
would in so great and waighty a cause doe the best offi-
ces that he coulde. When the Bishop was returned
into England and came before the king, hee declared
to his Majestie all the communication which had passed
betwene king James of Scotland, and him, from point to
point in order.

The king liked exceeding well of the motion, as he to
whom peace was ever a soueraigne salve.

But having then a mariage in nuptiall celebrazation al-
most, between Arthur Prince of Wales, and Katherine the
Inslant of Spaine, the mariage with Scotland being hasten-
ned by both the kings: in the very triumphs of the former
mariage, king James sendeth an Earle, a Bishop & diuers
noble personages, who were receaued into London for the
consummation of his mariage with the aforesaid La-
dy Margaret: which Earle by proxy, in the name of
king James his master assid and contracted the said lady.
The which assiance was published at Pauls crosse the day
of the conuercion of S. Paul being the 25. day of Januarie
supposed. In the reioicing wherof Te Deum was sung, &
great bonfires made throughout the City of London.

All these things being accomplished, the Embassa-
dores both of Scotland and Spayne tooke their leaue of the
king and departed, not without great rewards to both the
Embassadors.

Not long after, the Lady Margaret assayed as aforesaid
was sent towards the king her husband: the conuictaunce
of which princesse was committed to the Earls of North-
umberland & Surrey, the Earle of Northumberland being
L. Warden of the Marches, and was commanded to de-

Huer her at the very confines of both the realmes. And thereupon she was removed from Barwicke to Lamberton Kyok in Scotland; where the kings Matessie met her, and with him all the flower of Scotland of Noblemen and Gentlemen; and where the Earle of Northumberland according to his commission deliuered her unto the king of Scotland. The Earle of Northumberland that day was so richly apparelled in garments garnished with gold-smithes worke, stone and pearle, his Heremen also and the barbes and trappings of his horses, besides 400. tall med well mounted & apparelled in his livery & colours, that he seemed moze like a king then an Earle.

From Lamberton the foresaid Lady was conuayed to Edenborough; and there, the day after, king Iames espoused her in the presence of all the Nobilitie of Scotland, and of those English that attended her, with great feastings, banquetings, tisches, and Princely pastimes: and after all things finished to such a solemnity appertaining, the Earle of Surry beeing chiese in commision, with the Earle of Northumberland, and all the other English Lords and Ladies returned into their Countrey againe.

But as al earthly creatures and things transitory haue their end and period, so had this Mighty prince K. Henry the seauenth. For his sicknesse increasing daily more and more, he well perceaued that his end drew neare: therefore meaning to doe some comfort to his people, hee did grant them of his owne free motion a generall pardon for all men, and for all offences committed against any his Lawes and Statutes: Thieves, Murtherers, and certaine others were excepted: he also payde the fees of all prisoners in and about the gaoles of London abiding there onely for that dutie: Hee payde also the debts of all such persons as lay in the Counters or Ludgate for forty shillings, and vnder, and some he reliued that were condemned in ten pounds. Generall prayer being made to God.

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for the restitucion of his health, neverthelesse he was so wasted with his long malady, that nature could no longer sustaine his life, and so he departed this life the 22. of Aprill, 1509. at his palace at Richmond: his corps was conuainced to Westminster with all funerall pompe, and there buried by the good Queen his wife in a sumptuous Chappell, which he not long before had caused to be builded. And as the greatest Travellers haue reported it is one of the most bewtiful and most curios pieces of work in the world.

His Issue.

HE reigned twentie threé yéeres, seauen moneths. 146 days and liued fifty two yéeres: he had by his Queene fowze sonnes, and sower Daughters, of the which number there remained alue behinde him, Henry his second son, prince of Wales, which after him was king: Margaret Queene of Scotland, and Marie promised to Charles king of Castile.

His Description.

HE was of body but leane and spare, yet mighty and strong therewith, of personage and stature somewhat higher then the common sorte of men: of a wonderfull bewtie and faire complection, of countenance merry and smiling, especially in his communication: his eyes gray, his teeth single, and haire thinne, of wit in all things quicke and prompt, of a princely stameke, and haughty courage; in great perils, doubtfull affares and matters of importance supernaturally and as it were divine: for he ordered all his dooings aduisedly and with great deliberation.

Nota.

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He was sober, modest, moderate, honest, courteous, bountious; so much abhorring pride, and arrogancy, that he was ever sharpe and quicke to all about him noted with that fault, he was also an upright Justice: by the which one propertie he wan to him the heartes of many people. He left to that lustie valiant and gallant young Prince his sonne and heire many excellent good partes and properties of a Prince, as also Coffers full stufed with coyne, iewells and treasure. To conclude, he had in him as many good gifte both of body and minde, and fortune as it was possible for any King to haue: his politike wisedome in gouernance was singular, his wise-dome alwayes assured; reasons pithy and substantiall, his memorie fresh and holding, his experiance notable, his counsels fortunate and taken by wise deliberation, his speeches gratioues in diuers languages: leagues and confederations he had with all Princes Christian, his mighty power was dread every where both within his owne Realme and without, all his people were to him in humble subjection as ever they were to King: his land many a day in peace and tranquilitie, his prosperitie in battayle against his enemies was maruellous: his dea-ling in time of perils and dangers was cold and sober, with great hardinesse. If any treason were conspired agaist him it was miraculously discouered: his buildings most sumptuous, and godly, all of the newest forme and fashion and cast all of pleasure. So this king lived all his life in fortune's favour, in high honour, wealth, and glory, and all whiche he wrought his fame in this world, and the same everlasting in the world whiche shall never haue end.

• on gloriouſe aſto , iunior. One ſeſſe uponit. Ha ni ſtud
• in holidene, alſo ſaſtynge in ſpēnſes giveth one, ſhar
• ſt. ſanct. Benet. In ſaint Benet's ſaſtynge a man cometh
• and yelkyns a priore and Ha ſtudynge in ſpēnſes
• . And a ſtudie in ſpēnſes

His Epitaph.

Most prouident, most politicke, most wise,
Most sumptuous builder, most profound in all
The things that wealth and wisdom can devise,
The things that Art or memorie can call,
All things that God and nature did decree,
Those with this worthie king concluded be,
Not any other with this mightie King
May be received nor entertainment haue.
That which doth peace and plentie to him bring
That which his Realmes and subiects liues can saue,
Those he receaues that blessing brings from God,
Those he reiects which threaten scourge and Rod.
Thrise blessings in his mariages he made :
First was his owne, Queene El'zabeth his wife,
Before the which was many a bloody blade
Bath'd in the bowels of continued strife.
The house of Lancaster, with Yorke did strive,
To leue of Prince nor Subject one abye,
This Worthy brought into his nuptiall bed,
The bride whose bewtie did the World excell,
This Worthy ioyn'd the white Rose with the red,
This bed doth now in Windfor wardrobe dwell:
This mariage wrought that perfect Vnitie,
By which this day all Britaines happie be.
The second was his eldest Virgin pure,
The Lady Margret. Vnto Iames the King,
Bishop of Durham did that match procure :

Earle

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*Earle of Northumberland the bride did bring
Home into Scotland. Iames the fourth did wed.
Britaine most happy by that nuptiall bed.
Onely these two, though more this worthy made,
May now and shall suffice, for all the rest.*

No Actor he of *Hymenaeus* trade.

We in these two most happy now are blest,
And blest in heauen are the authors all
As we thereby redeemed are from thrall.

*Henry the seauenth seauen Scicaces imbrac't,
All liberall, all princely all of power,
All enemies he from his kingdomes chac't
And left a Sonne of Chivalry the flower,
Succeeding Henry and the eight to be
Worthy, but now a worthyer is then hee.*



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Captives of King John were brought into the city, and the King was compelled to pay a ransom of 150,000 marks.

King Henry the eighth.



Countesse of Richmond and Darby, such as he knew to be prouident indeed, and the kings his father most deare and familiar friends: some of whose names I thought good to insert, for the especiall and singular effects which ensued of their most honourable and graue counsels: viz.

Thomas Lord Haward Earle of Surrey and Treasurer of England, George Lord Talbot Earle of Shrewsbury and Steward of the kings householde: Charles L. Somerset Lord Chamberlaine, after Earle of Worcester, and others: which wise and graue Counsellors, seeing what abundance of wealth this young king was now possessed of, least it might incline his young yeares unto riotousnesse, and forgetting of himselfe (for not so any King before him was left the like riches in ready coyne, jewels, and plate, and excellent moveables, as to him by his famous father King Henry the seauenth) therefore those most honourable Counsellors did labour to attaine his Princeely presence, in their secret meetings, and most honourable privat counsels; that by degrēes they might win him to suuay at least the affaires of a kingly office, and Princeely government.

Which also he slacked not to do: for within lesse then 5. yeares after, to wit, the 20. of July in the fift yeare of his reigne, he entred into France with a puissant power, and mighty army, won the strong Townes of Torney and Turvin, had in pay (as soldiers mercenary) that most famous Emperour Charles the fist, and also the Palgrave of the Rhene, which bore Saint Georges croſſe: in whiche time also was fought that famous battaile of Branxstone or Floden-field, where the King and the flower of all his chivalry was conquered by the haultant bands of Norfolke, and Hawardes.

In the ſixt yeare of his raigne the Pope did ſend him a cappe of maintenancē, in thofe dayes the highest degré of honour: and the ſame Pope was mediatour to him ſince this time.

for peace, in the French Kings behalfe, and for the confirmation thereof the French king married the kings younger Sister Mary, and dyed shortly after.

In the thirteenth yeare, the King made a most sumptuous, pleasant, and princely voyage into France, with an triumphant traine of Nobles, Ladies, &c. for an interview betwix him & his Queen and States on the one party, which was performed in the valley of Andren, with many varieties of princely shewes, as the history thereof doth large describethe that voyage;

And that in his way the Emperour Charles met his Maiesie at Canterbury keeping Whitsontide there, with the king.

In the fourteenth yeare of his raigne, he was by a Bull from Rome, ordained or intituled the defender of the Christian faith, whiche title was then givene to him and his successours for ever.

The same yeare also he receaued into his Realme the forenamed Charles the first Emperour againe into the Cittie of London, with Great triumphes, &c. invested him with the Garter, and habit of that most honourable order, sware league and amity during both their lives.

In the 18. yeare he contracted league with the French K. to hold both those kings lives, and one yeare after, hee was also invested, with the collar and order of S. Michael, and the French king with the Garter and order of S. George.

The twentie three yeare hee (or the lawe for him) did confiscate Cardinall Wolsey a proude and wealthy Prelate in the Statute of prelature, had great treasure therby, as also great fines of all the Clergie, for defence of the Cardinals power Legatine: and about the same time, he took vpon him the title Supreme head of the church &c. For the whiche & for the suppression of Abbeies immediatly after,

howsoeuer the Pope and his successors since haue pretermmed to curse him and his blessed succession (his Daughter Mary only excepted):

Yet the Almighty hath blessed both him, and them, Edward and Elizabeth since, and long. O Lord vouchsafe to blesse the trewe and lineall descent of noble King Henry the seaueneth.

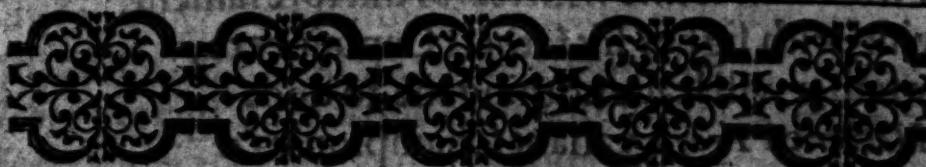
But sure it was a wonderfull kingly Majestie in that valiant King: who possessed but a part of great Britaine, nor haing fast friendship with the other part, but many domestick and civill garboiles at home: all or the maior parts of Christendome, holding then *Rome* and her religion for Catholike and uniuersall: all which notwithstanding, this most famous and mighty king did abolish and abandon, to his ever immortall praise and wonder of the world. How did God after this blesse his sonne, although but with young yeares and short raigne, yet with miraculous might: and his second suster raigning almost forty and five yeares, with immaculate happynesse.

And after this also he warred against the French king, wonne the Tower of Bulloyne and many other partes on that side, forced that Nation to composition, brought home peace, honor, wealth; and in the exceding loue of his people, he ended his life, at his palace at White-hall, the eight and twentieth day of January, Anno 1546. when he had reigned thirty and seven yeares, nine moneths, and odde dayes, triumphantly, and in great felicitie, leaving the Issue before mentioned, Edward, Mary, and Elizabeth. His body, according to his will in that behalfe, was interred at Windsor, with all funeral pompe, in the Chappel, and Colledge of S. George, Patron of the Garter; whereof almost 38. peeres he had beene sole Souereigne.

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His Description.

This worthy Prince was right fortunate in all his doings; so that (except onely in his mariages) all other his attempts had gude successse as wel in matters of peace, as of wars. Of personage he was tall and mightie, yet exceeding comely: but towards his latter end grosse and (as we fearme it) bonyly: in wit and memorie very perfect, of great statefullie; yet so tempered with gracious humanitie as he became so high an estate: a great fauourer of Learning & learned men, and of himself not ignorant of divine Learning, nor moe all literature: and soz his great magnificence and bountious liberallitie, his renowne was spred throughout the whole world.



His Epitaph

Eight Worthies now are nominated here, (men :
Eight Kings, eight Britaines, eight braue English.
Eight, such as in their times had no compeere :
Eight, such as cannot be exprest with pen :
Eight, such as neuer liu'd in time together,
King *Danids* Worthies might not match them euer.
For *Danids* Worthies were not crowned Kings :

I 3. Himself.

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David.

David was once anointed of the Lord,
His Psalms great comfort to our conscience brings,
His vertues were according to the word
Of God, for all his treatises are true
Prefiguring Christ, he Beare and Lyons slew.

Iosua.

Prince Iosua Captaine of that mighty hoste,
Six hundred thousand did his campe containe,
His prayer stayed the Sunne attid the Coast
Till he the Kings of Canaan had slaine :
He Israel their foes did all confound
And raz'd proud Iericho downe to the ground.

Iudas

*Macha-
beus.*

Braue Iudas Machabeus with the best
Of valure his thus bouldly may he boast :
The Iewes redeeming them with foes oppressed many
And that with small and verie sober boast :
A Worthie therefore of the Iewish Race,
Arm'd with that God, disposer of all grace.

*Alex-
ander.*

Great Alexander Macedonian Prince,
Whom the earths continent could not content:
Philippe his father Nations did conuince,
For which his sonne with teares did sore lament,
Saying with sighes his fathers Captaines to,
My father will leau nothing me to doo.

Hector.

Hector of Troy a valiant Champion tri'd
Gainst factious foes did oft r'enforce the field,
Enforcing them their faces else to hide
Or plead for mercy and like suppliants yeld,
Not any of our Henries wanted power,
To haue subdued him in his sternest stower.

*Julius
Cesar.*

If Julius Cesar could haue beene a King
With conquest which his Romaine Legions made,
By blody bodkins he should not the sting
Haue felt of death in powrefull Senates shade.
Brutus his sonne nor Cassius had conspir'd
His death, had he not kingly state requir'd.

Arthur.

Arthur of Britaine most renowned king,

The nine English Worthies. R 47

Sixe of the nine were not his equall peers,
Full thirty kingdomes he to his did bring,
Yet was his life not many moe in yeares.
Braue Britaine then take place among the best,
And midst our worthie Henries take thy rest.

Next Charlemaine of France, a Monarch great,
So called great, and Emperour he was. Charle-
maine.
French Chronicles his actions all do treat,
He for a Christian Worthy wel may passe.
Yet Henry ours the eight as good as he,
Shall for a Christian King compared be.

Godfrey de Bulcigne was a Prince offame,
He wore vpon his helme a crowne of thorne,
Hefreed all Christian captiues where he came:
And not forsooke them, till in peeces torn.
He left their foes laid groueling on the ground,
That durst attempt a Christian to confound.

Seethen nine Worthies in their ranke and place,
Three of which number gouerned the Lewes,
Great Iosua is formost of that race:
But, for king David brought vs better newes,
I place him first, and do withall compare
Henry the eight a worthie King most rare.
Henry the eight gaue vs our primier taske
Of milke which is most meete for infants foode:
Edw. and Eliza. stronger meates imbrac't,
And fed vs till we better vnderstood
The word of God, which Rome had vs bereft:
This grace to England gracious Henry left.
Threemore of Worthies by their names to call,
Great Alexander was the Gracious ioye:
And Julius Cesar mighty Romane shall
Be second here, then Hector stout of Troy:
Threec mighty Princes, peerless in their dayes,
Whose worthy valour won them endlesse praise.
Three Worthies more of Christians bear the name,

Arthur.

48. The nine English Worthies.

Arthur of Britaine, Charlemaine of France, in armes so xiij.
And he that freed all Christians where he came
Wearing a crowne of thorne the name t' aduance,
Godfrey de Balloyn worthie Christians threc.
Nine no lesse worthie follow in degree.

Henry the first, Henry the second eke,
Henry the third, Henry the fourth and fife :
Henry the sixt, whose match is farre to seeke.
Except King James do match him, none aline
With that sweet King may well compared be,
For trew and perfect magnanimitie.

Henry the seventh a prudent worthy Prince,
Whose wisedome ioyn'd with perfect policy,
With red Rose and with white, he did conuince
Domestike foes, and foraigne that durst try
For title, state, preheminence or place.

Eld'st Daughter his is now great Britaines grace.

Henry the eight, eight Worthies more hath made:
The ninth remaines in Henry Prince of Wales.
The eight do rest in fresh Elysian shade,
The ninth need feare no blaste of winter gales,
So long as worthiest of all Worthies lues,
King James, to whom all Eighteen Worthies gives
Their Scepters, Crownes, their Diadems and power,
Their places and preheminence likewise.
Th' Almighty hold his mighty hand each howr,

Vpon his head; that caused him to rise
Like Phœbus when our Cynthia lately set,
Paying to God and nature all her debt.
This Epitaph in Henry eight shall end,
And Henry Prince of Wales may here beginne,
To imitate, for that he doth descend,
Such Worthies eight, such honour may he winne,
Long life, good health, all graces from aboue,
With Subiects praise and kingly Fathers loue.

Cynthia.

FINIS.

Henrie the ninth, Prince of Great Britaine:



The Author, in honour of the last ninth Worthie.

Eight famous Kings precedents to a Prince,
Whose valiant acts are registered with fame:
Eight *Henries*, and allthose the conquest since,
As Worthies all haue iustified their name:
Eight such as all the Kingdomes of the earth
Cannot exceed, for Title, State, and Birth.
What makes men Noble? Birth and parentage,
Adornd with gifts, and beautified with grace.

K

Then

Then Britaine boast, that neuer any age
Brought the like Prince, a thousand yeares in space:
For birth, for vertue, and for expectation,
Prince of Great Britaine ouerpeer's each Nation.
Ninth Worthie then, O Prince, possesse in peace
That worthy Title, best befitting fame:
Let prudence, fortitude, and all increase
That vertue addes, and doth adorne your name.
Let Princes all, and spite it selfe confesse,
In forraigne Lands Prince Henry is peerless.
Of all the World our mirror then of might,
Our Paragon, most rare and worthie praise,
Our Comet, and our rising Starre most bright,
Grant mightie Ioue, that long and happie dayes
He may enioy, and we reioyce and sing
For this Ninth Worthie, first for James our King,
Your famous father, and Great Britaines Ioy.
Your glorie also, guyder of your youth;
Whose carefull Counsell to preuent annoy,
Most like a King, he pend in perfect truth,
You to direct: and all young Gentlemen
(Your followers) are aduised, by Kingly Pen.

The



The Prince his Bien-venue, or welcome to all the famous Worthies of the World.

Baue Britaines beautie, and faire Englands Ioy,
Cambers Commander, Irelands lamp of light,
Cornwales faire Duke, and Chester from annoy
Count Palatine, for to defend with might,
Whole Europes Comet and Saint Georges Knight,
Grant Lord, the George and Garter long he weare
To King and Countries comfort, as true heire.
Welcome sweet Prince, into our company,
Which we from heauen with cheerefulness behold.
We had our times, our period was to die;
But yours to live, and registered in gould:
Whose powerful parent cannot be contrould,
Because he knowes and feares the Lord aboue,
Lives in his Lawes, and hath his peoples loue.
But had your praise beeene limd with learned pen,
Of Princely Surrey, once a Poet sweet,
Sir Thomas Wyat, or like gentlemen,
They on this Thearne discoursers had beeene meet:
But this (alas) hath earthen hands and feet:
And yet, for that we in our Tumbes dorest,
Let's be content to see and say the best.
This poore beginning may much better proue:
The fairest tops and architectures stand
On lowe laide morter: beautie shines aboue.

Founda-

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Foundations, first, are laied, with mirie hand:
Timber, glasse, stone, lead, iron, gould on sand
Are seated, and more subiect to decay
Then that beneath, whereon their State doth stay.
From hence may happe some Builders take a frame,
And reare with Beautie sumptuous stately Towers:
The worthie Poets, Daniell by name,
Syluester, Drayton, can build sumptuous Bowers:
And many moe bedewd with heauenly shewers.

And though who now this taske doth vndertake,
Did neuer to the Muses homage make
(The more vafit to fawne vpon them then,
In craving of their aide without desart,
And to invite them with a rusticke pen,
Fetching his cunning onely from the Cart)
Yet, yet, give leaue to euerie loyall hart.
For all are not indewed with learnings skill:
And he writes wel of States, that writes no ill.
Then take, in gree, all what proceedes of loue,
Of dutie, and of true obedience.
And whosoere he be doth faithfull proue
In seruices, and shall (without offense)
Whistle or pipe, sans hope of recompence,
And onely to expresse a ioyfull heart
At Princes good; O, let him Act his part.

F I N I S.

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